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THE MASTER HAND AND MIND OF NEWTON D. BAKER

SIR,—Reading THE NORTH AMERICAN REVIEW is the most fascinating intellectual treat imaginable, even when we cannot agree with its brilliant battling editor.

It is unfortunate that you couple the names of Daniels and Newton D. Baker together; there is not the slightest resemblance in the characters of the two men. If the political affairs of President Wilson were to be allowed to rest in the hands of Daniels, disaster would assuredly follow; but Baker is a type of manhood measured by any standard you wish,—the Hughes standard, if you must.

Let us for a moment observe the straws which indicate which way the political wind blows at times. You remember the fight that Root put up for the constitution of this great State of ours? Root went before the people with his child, begging them to accept. You know the answer.

Turn back to the constitutional convention of Ohio, Herbert Bigelow, President. The constitution as adopted was inspired by the spirit of Johnson, and taken to the people of that State by Bigelow, another of Tom L's young men. Again you know the answer.

Here is the picture: Root, great, powerful, astute, able to the nth degree, his ideas of a constitution treated with contempt by the voters of the Empire State. Bigelow, pastor of Vine Street Congregational Church, great too (in a different way) poor, but tremendously in earnest, eloquently pleads his cause before the voters of Ohio, and his constitution is carried almost unanimously.

Am I reasoning to no purpose when I state that in the fight for a constitution in Ohio the master hand and master mind of Newton D. Baker could be traced at every turn,—the same Baker that fought through fifty-seven injunctions from the lowest court in Ohio up to the Supreme Court of the United States to fix forever the principle that every American city had a right to its own streets?

The *Lusitania* murderers, the Belgian rapers, the contemptuous destroyers of treaties, the ravishers of women, the slayers of babes: these men and their sympathizers are for Charles Evans Hughes. He has so far accepted their support, ditto the Republican party, and not even the doughty Teddy himself can overcome such a handicap as that.

Watch Newton D. Baker, Colonel; for, if I mistake not, he will be found too much for any of the men the Hughes managers can place against him. Like many of your readers, the conduct of the present Administration at Washington has disgusted me beyond words, but as a mere betting proposition, it looks like Wilson in a walk.

JOHN MCF. HOWIE.

BUFFALO, N. Y.

A PLEA FOR SANITY

SIR,—Your wonderful analysis in showing the necessity for the Republicans to nominate Hughes at Chicago in the May number of the REVIEW was read with keen interest; then nearly one hundred of the leading papers of the nation in editorials earnestly commended it in the June number; this all occurring before the conventions. After looking up carefully Mr.

Hughes' past life, and his faithful self-denying work, we find a *man*, and his judgment, foresight, logic, the proof of his statesmanship we saw in his Governorship of the State of his birth. Always for the rights of the people, and always right. We have arrived at the most extravagant era in our history, and the present Administration, in the past two Congresses, has been shameful. The people are aroused to the need of economy, and a lessened taxation. They can look for it with a certainty from Hughes. My dear sir, there are many things that impel me to say that, by every reason I know, you should enter this campaign with all your strength, and aid in bringing a return of sanity in the Government of our country.

FRANK C. BOISE.

DENVER, COL.

FLORIDA'S VOTE

SIR,—It may interest you to know what effect your May article on Hughes had with one delegation to the Republican Convention.

For many years I have regularly followed your editorials, testing your foresight and forecasts by the results afterward occurring, and have found them correct.

In this instance one of the candidates was a personal friend, but on the strength of your forecast, and believing that "the people wanted Hughes," the entire delegation of my State cast a solid vote for Hughes, on every ballot taken. I did this because I believed that you have a vision that carries you beyond the day.

I congratulate the American people that you can serve them as you have done and are doing. It is a great service.

WM. R. O'NEAL.

ORLANDO, FLA.